Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03818 261458Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7432

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 3818

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC BILATERALS DURING PRESIDENT'S VISIT

- 1. THE POSSIBILITY THAT RHODESIAN DISCUSSIONS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM OF LAGOS ACTIVITIES SUNDAY MORNING APRIL 2 SHARPENS THE EMBASSY'S CONCERN THAT PRESIDENT CARTER BE ADEQUATELY BUTTRESSED BY ECONOMIC STAFF DURING HIS BILATERAL ECONOMIC TALKS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THAT MORNING AT 10:30 AM.
- 2. AS INDICATED IN LAGOS TELS 3813 AND 3816, NIGERIAN PARTICIPANTS IN ECONOMIC BILATERALS ARE THE "HEAVIES" IN THE MINISTRIES OF TRADE, FINANCE, INDUSTRIES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, AND THE CABINET OFFICE. INCLUDED ARE AMBASSADOR AFOLABI, TOP ECONOMIC EXPERT IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND FALAE, CABINET OFFICE PERMSEC WHO WILL PROBABLY LEAD THE NIGERIAN TEAM TO THE WORKING GROUP TALKS IN WASHINGTON IN LATE APRIL . ALSO INCLUDED ARE PERMSECS BELLO AND AL HAJI, AIG'S WO PRINCIPAL ANTAGONISTS.
- 3. WHEREAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE NIGERIAN SIDE LIKELY TO OVERLAP WITH THE RHODESIAN TALKS EARLIER IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MORNING IS GARBA, WE MAY FIND THERE WOULD BE SEVERAL ON OUR SIDE (E.G., ANDY YOUNG, DICK MOOSE, AND TONY LAKE).

4. ALL OF THIS SUGGESTS THAT A CAREFUL LOOK BE TAKEN AT THE AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE ECONOMIC TALKS IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT THE PRESIDENT'S BROAD-BRUSH APPROACH TO THE ISSUES CAN BE FILLED IN TO THE EXTENT APPROPRIATE

BY MORE SPECIALIZED STAFF
EASUM

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED WHITE HOUSE

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NNN

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